

MASTERPIECES of COLORADO

A RICH LEGACY OF LANDSCAPE PAINTING



Use this lesson while viewing the exhibit AND in the classroom .

Web and Descriptive Paragraph

Grade Level: 5-12

Duration: One 40-50 minute class period

Materials: Pencil, clipboard, attached handout

Colorado Standards: Reading and Writing: 1, 2, and 3; Visual Arts: 1, 2, and 5

DESCRIPTION:

It is important for students to learn how to use graphic organizers to help them plan their writing. Using the attached web and the observations of one painting, students will use their knowledge of the elements of art and write a descriptive paragraph about the painting.

PROCEDURE:

Classroom practice might be necessary for this lesson. For practice, students will identify the Elements of Art that they see in a piece of art. The Elements are: **Line** (horizontal, vertical, types such as wavy, zigzag, etc.), **Shape** (geometric, and organic), **Color** (warm-red, orange, yellow; cool-blue, green, violet; neutral-gray, tan), **Space** (foreground, middle ground, background), **Texture** (rough, smooth, etc.), **Value** (use of light), and **Form** (refers to height, width and depth in a piece of art). Encourage them to identify the types of elements they see in several pieces of art. Students will also need to be familiar with the use of a graphic organizer, specifically a web, in order to complete this lesson at the exhibition.

Students will view the *2007 Masterpieces of Colorado Landscape* exhibit and choose a favorite painting from the exhibit. Using the web worksheet, students will complete the web using words to describe each category. Encourage students to add categories if they think of ideas that are not on the web.

Students should organize their descriptive words and make a list from the web. Using these words, students will write a paragraph about their chosen painting. Encourage students to use as many of the words as possible.

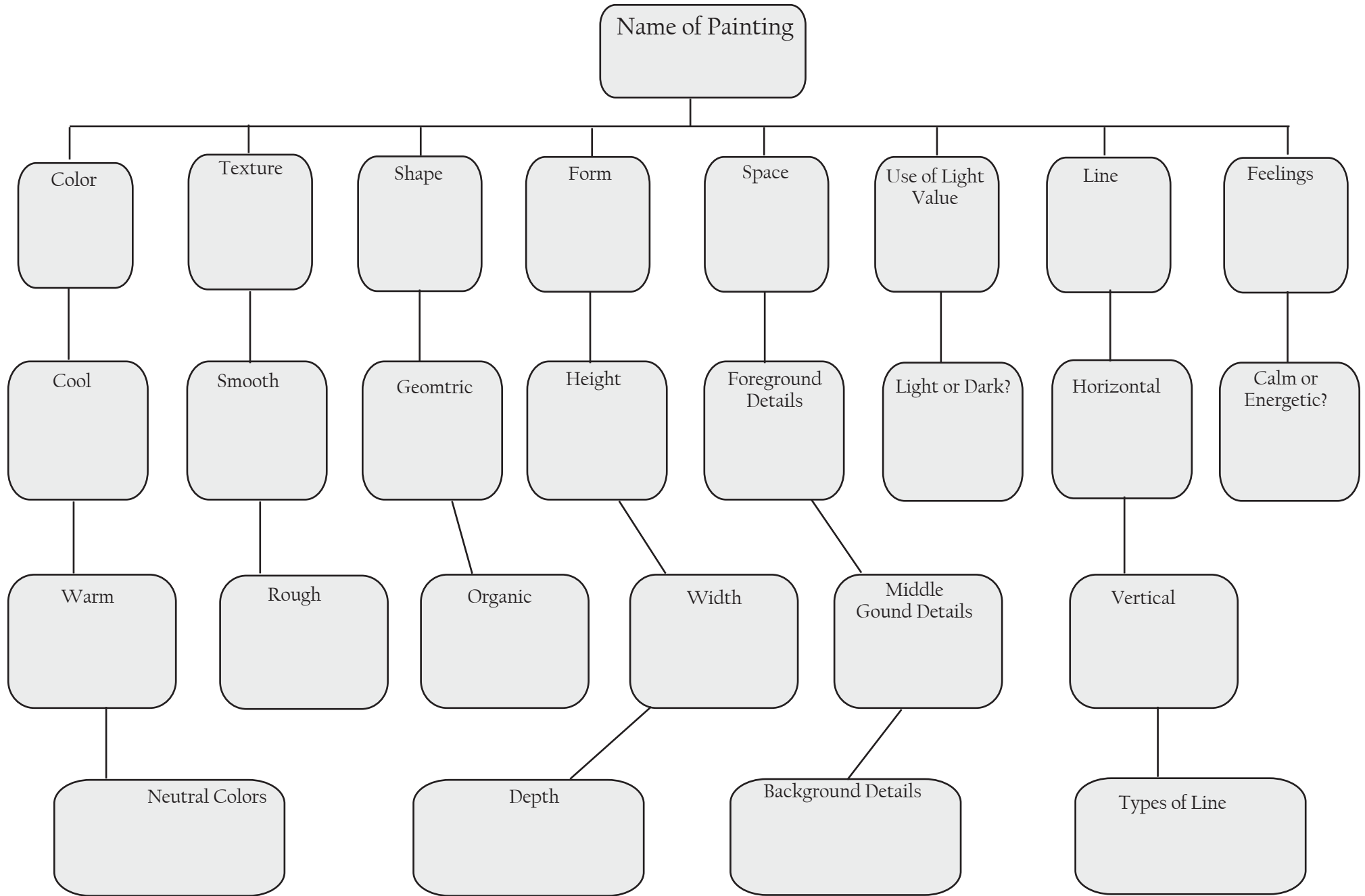
ADAPTATIONS:

In a second web, advanced art students can use the Principles of Design in a web to outline and write a paragraph about a painting.

EXTENSIONS:

Students can use this web design to analyze their own piece of art. Ask students to write a descriptive paragraph about their own work. This paragraph can be mounted and hung with the art.

Name _____



Choose a painting and get comfortable. Use this web and fill in the details you can see in the painting. You are looking at the elements of art and the feelings you get from the painting. After the web is complete, write a paragraph describing the painting using the words you have in your web. Use as many of the words as possible.